

MINUTES – BOARD



Britannia Board Meeting November 4, 2020

Via Conference Call - Zoom

PRESENT: Annie Danilko, Pamela Dudas, John Flipse, Naina Varshney, Emily Vickery, Susanne Dahlin, Farren Gillaspie, Pat Hogan, Ingrid Kolsteren, Freya Kristensen, Craig Ollenberger, Jane Stanier, Li Mei Yip, Alec MacInnes, Carmen Cho
STAFF: Cynthia Low, Peter Odynsky, Jeremy Shier, Kathy Whittam (recording)
REGRETS: Jacky Hughes, Noreen Ma, Stuart MacKinnon
GUESTS: Matthew Halverson, Danica Djurkovic, Michelle Schouls, Monica Bennington, David Dove, Max Richter, Sauna Bryce, Sarah Gillet, Mary Tasi, Sierra Tasi Baker

Annie called meeting to order at 6:03pm

Welcome and land acknowledgement

1. Approval of Agenda

- add Board Check In after Break.

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED

John Flipse/ Pamela Dudas

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Oct 14, 2020

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Pamela Dudas/ John Flipse

CARRIED

3. Old Business

Partnership Policy and Guidelines Development (Cynthia)

- Vantage Point helping us with the guidelines development
- 15 interviews including Board members, staff and community partners such as VPB
- Have scheduled three zoom group sessions to share findings so far and gather feedback and suggestions.
- Anticipating final document will be ready in January
- Will be released with town hall event with implementation plan and partnerships review evaluations
- New partnerships will be based on the guidelines that come out of this process
- Britannia does a lot of collaborative work and consultation and engagement are integral to what we do

2020 Priorities Update (Cynthia)

- Communication has become key, developing new tools to be effective through challenges such as the AGM
- Partnership review has been moving forward
- A big piece to deal with is staff engagement
- Need to figure out ways to connect everyone when we have to be separated

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- Will come up high on list as a 2021 priority
- Will have a report in December on what was achieved from the 2020 priority list

Britannia Renewal Master Plan Update

- Introduction to the core team of consultants on the renewal project:
 - Matthew Halverson – COV, Project Manager
 - Danica Djurkovic – COV, Director of Facilities Planning & Development
 - Michelle Schouls – COV, Associate Director, Facilities Planning
 - Monica Bennington – COV, Civic Engagement Specialist
 - David Dove – Perkins & Will, Project Leadership
 - Max Richter – Perkins & Will, Project Architect
 - Sauna Bryce – Perkins & Will, Project Manager
 - Sarah Gillet – Modus, Engagement Lead
 - Mary Tasi – Sky Spirit Consulting, Executive Director
 - Sierra Tasi Baker, Sky Spirit Consulting, Lead Cultural & Design Consultant
- Main focus tonight is to meet the team and view presentation of site rezoning process
- The consultation team consists of specialists from Perkins & Will, MODUS, and Sky Spirit Consulting
- Perkins & Will is an architecture firm in Vancouver for over 20 years and with offices in many cities globally such as London, Chicago, Shanghai and Toronto
- Experts in sustainable design
- MODUS is a local leader in community engagement
- Sky Spirit is bringing a Coast Salish design lens to the project
- Usually indigenous voices invited late in the process
- Wanted to ground our practice and work in Indigenous values and brought in in the beginning
- Have read through all of the Core Documents and Britannia's Response to the Master Plan
- Key issues to be resolved during the rezoning stages
- Continuing to engage and listen, like original development with community voices
- Not diving into any building without resolve of issues from community
- Commitments made on aquatics through VPB VanSplash goals
- In this rezoning stage will work to determine what housing on site could look like
- Previous council decisions valid until overturned so moving forward based on mandate from earlier council to pursue housing in the air parcels
- If there are concerns from community now is the time to resolve these issues - the number of housing units can be reduced, form of buildings will be developed, etc.
- Public engagement will be launched in January
- Continue the same level of transparency with Britannia at the table
- City staff will provide memos to City Council so they're not surprised by anything if citizens call them
- Make sure site partners are on the same page and messaging is aligned
- Project understanding, know that Britannia Board role is to represent the community
- How to engage during covid times, create covid safe environment
- Design engagement, adapt approach regarding physical distance and online
- How do we seize on technical opportunity to invite people not usually involved
- Ensure many levels of engagement, diverse plan
- Rich network of community engagers, mobilize existing groups
- More small distributed workshops and co-hosted events rather than large events

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- Virtual collaboration stations
- How to share info we'd usually share at open houses
- How to create opportunities for open dialogue regarding needs in community
- Early outreach and talk to community members
- Key stakeholders, get sense of what people are comfortable with
- Next steps, meet with rezoning planners to confirm our timelines
- Mindful of access to tech and the digital divide
- Green spaces even more important in covid times because not everyone has space at home
- More discussion on the social hub, more understanding needed
- Definitely heard from community that too much housing is not acceptable
- Have to be careful with language and terminology that is off putting or jargon, such as "massing" which equals shape and shadowing of a building over green space
- More work needs to be done on what massing will look like
- Number of units will depend on type of housing chosen, ie family housing will be larger units so fewer total units
- Annie thanks everyone for their time and coming to meet the Board and share info on upcoming process
- Not an easy community to please, trying to balance voices and meet needs of present while thinking of future needs as well

4. New Business

2020 Planning Day

- Instead of one full day session, proposing 2 dates for half days on Sunday Nov 22 and 29
- Questionnaire survey for all to complete, opportunity for questions and comments for the Board to consider on our planning day
- Please send to committees
- Need surveys in by Nov 13th for review
- Quick turnaround so the Board Development committee can asses for priorities
- Expressed appreciation to Emily for help putting the survey together and getting it on survey monkey
- Susanne will invite Scott & Sean to a planning day session to navigate rezoning process

5. Partner Reports

Alec MacInnes (VSB)

- Nearing end of the first quarter of the four quarter year
- Going along well adapting to different situations
- Cross country only fitness group happening so far
- Student life extracurricular is limited
- Student council vote is next week
- No hanging out in halls or cafeteria, fun times out of class together
- Access to food for schools through Provincial and community link grants
- Breakfast for kids and hot lunch
- Gift cards for families from donations
- Ron trying to start after school program using grade 11's as mentors for elementary age kids

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Britannia

- Met with Matthew and Danica of the City to engage VSB stakeholders in renewal plan
- Introduced to Secondary PAC
- Teachers are noticing a lag in learning for some due to lack of facetime and attention
- Susanne shared appreciation for engaging student population in the process, reflection of student leadership in the past
- 3rd year as Principal and can see how intertwined the students lives are between school and community
- Cynthia gave thanks for the work as School Administrator

Peter Odynsky (VPB)

- Park Board endorsed and passed VanPlay, a strategic plan for the next 25 years.
- Mandatory mask policy being implemented in public buildings
- Recreation team has started planning for winter
- Good talk today on priorities
- We are at capacity of what we can program in gyms and large space like CFEC
- Focus still on youth and seniors
- Added volunteer's ability to obtain courtesy pass with condition that free drop-ins are not bookable in advance, must be first come first serve drop-in
- Looking at raise capacity of fitness centre one or two people
- Don't want to expand too much due to numbers going up, don't want to be complacent
- May start adding programming when things steady
- Looking at after school program for students and in pool
- Food program has not diminished at all
- Needs assessment of continued users and new referrals
- Thanks to volunteers who are helping to do so much
- Success mentioned at program meeting is Sabian who has built his skill with program, patient and helpful
- Improve capacity building for instructors and people bridging digital divide

Carmen Cho (VSB)

- Working on long range facility plan
- Report to Ministry on how using buildings and numbers of usage
- Long range facility plan looks at enrolment and community usage of buildings
- Anti-racism training mandated for all staff and trustees
- Build into anti-racism strategic plan
- Challenging for secondary students and lack of things to do
- Trying to figure out how to get grade 8 and 9's in school more often as most difficult adjustment for students right out of elementary

6. Administration Reports

Executive Director

- Focus on partnership review
- Have been out of the office since the 14th, working from home
- Warming centre planning to open when weather is below 0 degrees
- Need to get all staff trained and when a cold front comes in 1739 will open
- COVID training protocols haven't happened yet, should be good by end of November
- Has to be below 0 degrees or really rainy and cold 2 degrees

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Manager of Administration

- End of third quarter
- Fee for service is where we expect to be
- Surplus to move to discretionary, trying to hold to \$30,000 surplus
- Child care sits at large surplus due to Provincial CCOF and Federal CEWS grants
- Forecast a surplus will be needed next year, child care reserve
- 2021 budget planning in process
- Board can expect the budget to be presented at December meeting
- 2021 will be more difficult year so looking at deficits into the budget
- Programs we want to keep running are not money makers
- Board needs to think about how much of a deficit comfortable with
- City is looking for things to cut from their budget
- Park board helping with focus on necessity of funds to operate facilities that people want and need open
- Federal CEWS program looks like it will extend into the new year, though not sure for how long
- Cost of extra cleaning and other factors to consider in operations

Manager of Child Care Services

- Wage enhancement from province end this month
- Small enrolment during transition period
- Low transmission and contact
- Staffing problem as some can't come back
- Pedagogist starting soon

8. Staff Representative

- Info Centre closed to staff not working in there
- Used to be the hub for connection
- Areas feel disconnected
- Waiting for park board to make masks mandatory for staff and members

9. Consent Items

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee

- Good meeting last month
- Focus on creating safe space
- Need to talk about what direction to go
- Get into details of the work the committee will do

Arts & Culture Committee

- Next meeting this Thursday
- Running a single day craft market on Dec 5th
- Following COVID protocols around spacing
- There will be 15 vendors
- Staff capacity, cleaning routines etc
- Could have monthly markets if proves successful
- Vendors appreciate opportunity

Reconciliation In Action

- Next meeting on Nov 19th

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SEA Committee

- Busy making poppies for sale to raise funds for Indigenous Veterans
- Sales going really well with volunteers in plaza 3 days a week
- New HATTA sessions with Sabian starting

MOTION TO ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS AS PRESENTED

Craig Ollenberger/ Susanne Dahlin

CARRIED

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 8:43pm

Pamela Dudas/ Emily Vickery

CARRIED

Board In Camera